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August 3, 2006

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David C. Williams
Inspector General
United States Postal Service
1735 North Lynn Street
Arlington, VA 22209-2020

Dear Inspector General:

I am writing to request an investigation into information I have received regarding delayed mail at the Los Angeles processing plant. The anonymous report of delayed mail indicates that first-class mail has been delayed by six days and periodicals by as much as ten days.

For some time now, constituents in my congressional district and surrounding districts have complained of receiving first-class letters and magazines late. Often, constituents have complained of receiving no mail at all. In December 2005, I wrote to the Postmaster General to report these issues, but unfortunately, my constituents continue to report poor service. I have not seen consistent improvements in my congressional district. In fact, recent reports from my constituents have included receipt of mail as much as 14 days after their postmark.

I am requesting a thorough review to determine the extent of delayed mail in the facilities listed on the attached report, along with reasons for the delay. I am also seeking recommendations for short-term actions the Postal Service should take immediately to remedy the current situation and long-term actions to correct poor mail service permanently. Additionally, I request that employees be interviewed during the investigation and that your office conduct a complete efficiency review of the facilities, including a review of internal controls and computer-generated data, to determine the integrity and reliability of these systems.

Please feel free to contact Lisa Pinto, my district director, at 323-651-1040 or Denise Wilson at 202-226-0570 should you need additional information or have any questions. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Henry A. Waxman
Ranking Minority Member

Enclosure